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Monday, August 19, 2019 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

NAKED BIKE RIDE

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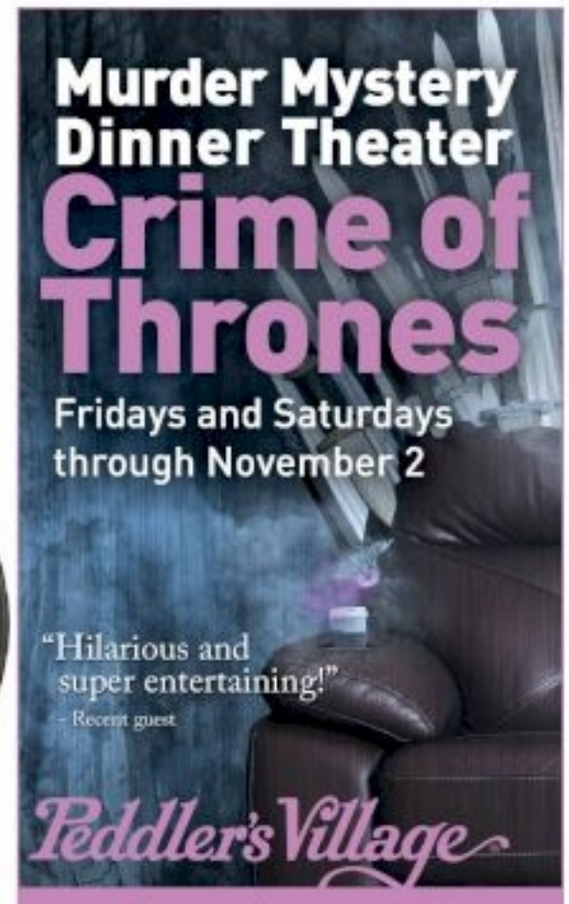

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$50 VISA gift card offer. 18

The Atlantic City Airshow, now in its 17th year, features mostly former military aviators piloting vintage aircraft from the '40s and '50s to the delight and admiration of a half-million spectators gathered below on the Jersey Shore. 14

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Metro's Weather Report

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
94° | 76°	93° | 74°	91° | 74°	88° | 68°	81° | 63°
Patchy fog then slight chance T-storms	Heavy rain	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Mostly sunny

White House says no recession in sight, pushes China trade talks

The U.S. is "in pretty good shape," advisers say.

White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow. REUTERS

White House officials pushed back on Sunday against concerns that economic growth may be faltering, saying they saw little risk of recession despite a volatile week on global bond markets, and insisting their trade war with China was doing no damage to the United States.

Trump administration economic adviser Larry Kudlow said trade deputies from the two countries would speak within 10 days and "if those deputies meetings pan out... we are planning to have China come to the USA" to advance negotiations over ending a trade battle that has emerged as a potential risk to global economic growth.

But even with the stalks stalled for now and the threat of greater tariffs and other trade restrictions hanging over the world economy, Kudlow said on "Fox News Sunday" the United States remained "in pretty good shape."

"There is no recession in sight," Kudlow said. "Consumers are working. Their wages are rising. They are spending and they are saving."

His comments follow a rocky week in which concerns about a possible U.S. recession began to drive financial markets and seemed to put administration officials on edge about whether the economy would hold up through the 2020 presidential election campaign. Democrats on Sunday argued Trump's trade policies are now posing an acute, short-term risk.

> **"We have the strongest economy in the world and money is coming here for our stock market. It's also coming here to chase yield in our bond markets."**
>
> Trade adviser Peter Navarro

U.S. stock markets tanked last week on recession fears, with all three major U.S. indexes closing down about 3 percent on Wednesday only to pair their losses by Friday due to expectations the European Central Bank might cut rates.

The Fed and 19 other central banks have already loosened monetary policy in what Fitch Ratings last week described as the largest shift since the 2009 recession.

Markets are expecting even more cuts to come. For a brief time last week bond investors demanded a higher interest rate on 2-year Treasury bonds than for 10-year Treasury bonds, a potential signal of lost faith in near-term economic growth.

Much of the uncertainty surrounds prospects for a resolution of the trade tensions between the United States and China.

The administration last week delayed the imposition of some of its planned tariffs to avoid disrupting the upcoming Christmas shopping season. President Donald Trump told reporters he had a call with China's President Xi Jinping scheduled soon. It had not taken place as of Saturday night.

Trade adviser Peter Navarro on Sunday dismissed last week's market volatility as any sort of warning sign, saying "good" economic dynamics were encouraging investors to move money to the United States.

"We have the strongest economy in the world and money is coming here for our stock market. It's also coming here to chase yield in our bond markets," Navarro told ABC's "This Week."

For bond markets, the sort of movement Navarro described is often driven by trouble — in this case the possibility that the trade battle with China is lasting far longer than expected and becoming disruptive to business investment and growth.

The U.S. economy does continue to grow and add jobs each month. Retail sales in July jumped a stronger-than-expected 0.7 percent, the government reported last week, and Kudlow said that number showed that the main prop of the U.S. economy is intact.

But manufacturing growth has slowed and lagging business investment has become a drag.

A slowdown would be bad news for Trump, who is building his 2020 bid for a second term around the economy's performance. He told voters at a rally last week they had "no choice" but to vote for him to preserve their jobs and investments. REUTERS

Ex-NFL, Texas RB Benson dies at 36 in motorcycle crash

2 Former NFL and Texas running back Cedric Benson was killed Saturday night in a motorcycle crash in Austin, Texas. He was 36. His family confirmed his death to the Austin American-Statesman. Official confirmation from the Travis County medical examiner was expected as early as Sunday afternoon. Benson's passenger, identified only as woman in her 30s, also was killed, according to the Austin-Travis County EMS. Both were declared dead on the scene. TMZ reported Sunday morning that Benson's motorcycle ran into a minivan. The EMS said the crash occurred after 10 p.m. Saturday and that two other people sustained injuries that weren't life-threatening. North Carolina coach Mack Brown, who recruited Benson when he was Texas' coach, responded: "We lost a great one way too soon #RIP." In his NFL career, Benson rushed for 6,017 yards and 32 touchdowns. REUTERS

CDC investigating 'cluster' of illnesses linked to e-cig use

3 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is investigating a "cluster" of lung illnesses linked to e-cigarette use after such cases were reported in 14 states. The CDC is working with health departments in Wisconsin, Illinois, California, Indiana and Minnesota on the investigation. Since June 28, states have reported 94 possible cases of severe lung illness tied to vaping, with 30 occurring in Wisconsin, according to a CDC statement on Saturday. Patients with the illness experienced cough, shortness of breath and fatigue. Some had serious breathing difficulties that required ventilation. A CDC spokesman was unable to provide additional information. Representatives for the state health departments did not respond to inquiries. New York and New Jersey have also issued health advisories regarding vaping-linked lung illnesses. REUTERS

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ALL PHOTOS BRAD LARRISON

Everything you need to know about the Philly Naked Bike Ride 2019

The nude ride makes its return for an 11th year.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

Philadelphia's famous Naked Bike Ride is right around the corner.

The Philly Naked Bike Ride was created to celebrate both biking and body positivity. It celebrates all bodies and all forms of free expression. The Philly ride has been around for 11 years, and boasts somewhere between 2,000 and 3,500 riders each year.

Although it is called the Naked Bike Ride, people can still participate even if they don't want to go totally nude. The event is described as a "bare as you dare" event, according to the website. Organizers also encourage riders to get creative with costumes, paints, hats and anything under the sun. Not only are riders celebrating their bodies, but they are also promoting conscious fuel consumption.

P.S. If you don't have a bike, don't worry: All kinds of people-powered transportation, such as skates or Rollerblades, skateboards, scooters and jogging, are encouraged.

When is the Philly Naked Bike Ride 2019?

This year's Philly Naked Bike Ride will take place on Aug. 24, 2019.

Where is the Philly Naked Bike Ride 2019?

The location of the ride will be disclosed only 24 hours in advance of the ride, so be sure to follow Philly Naked Bike Ride on social media for a map of the race. If you want to support riders, the best spots to watch the ride are Rittenhouse Square, the Rocky Steps at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, City Hall and University City. However, check out the Philly Naked Bike Ride's social media for more updates.

What time is the Philly Naked Bike Ride 2019?

The ride begins at 5 p.m. Pre-ride festivities will begin at 2:30 p.m. Their website states that the ride is around 10 miles and usually takes riders two to three hours to complete. However, it is not a race; it is a ride.

How much does the Philly Naked Bike Ride 2019 cost?

The ride is 100 percent free. However, donations are encouraged to keep the organization running.

What are the rules for the Philly Naked Bike Ride 2019?

The website for the Philly Naked Bike Ride actually has a code of conduct for those who are participating and even watching. The rules are pretty easy to follow. The No. 1 priority is for everyone to feel safe; no sexual or physical harassment is allowed. Another priority is making sure, when taking images of the riders, to ask for their permission. For a full list of unwelcomed behaviors, check out the code of conduct page.

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These are the top 20 signs of 'adulting,' according to experts

A new study shared what it means to truly be considered a so-called "adult" nowadays.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

Things aren't so simple now. What would once be considered "adulthood" is now delayed, disfigured and straight-up disorienting. In fact, a new study shows just how different people's perceptions are as far as what "adulting" truly means.

Farm Rich examined how different generations perceive adulthood, specifically studying millennials, baby boomers, Gen Xers, and Gen Zers. The study came about thanks to an interest in how young people view the transition to adulthood, and how times have changed with this whole idea of adulting, according to Farm Rich Marketing Director Shannon Gilreath, who added, "The findings in this study are both funny and true."

The first thing the study found was that millennials think you need to be a full-on adult at 26, whereas baby boomers said 31 was the magic age.

Another interesting point in the survey is that men are considered adults at age 26, whereas respondents thought women reached adulthood at 23.

The survey shared the top signs of "adulting," and the No. 1 response across all generations was "having a budget." Fifty-five percent of the 2,000 surveyed said this was the ne plus ultra of being an adult. Although having a budget was the top sign of adulting, another study done by Debt.com reported that only 67 percent of those surveyed actually had one.

Fifty-four percent of all participants in the Farm Rich survey said the next big step when it comes to adulting is buying a house.

Coming in third place is "filing your own taxes," with 52 percent of people saying it's a peak sign of adulting. (Though, let's be real, folks of all ages know the struggle of tax season.) According to an article in the New York Post, 57 percent of people are not confident when it comes to understanding taxes.

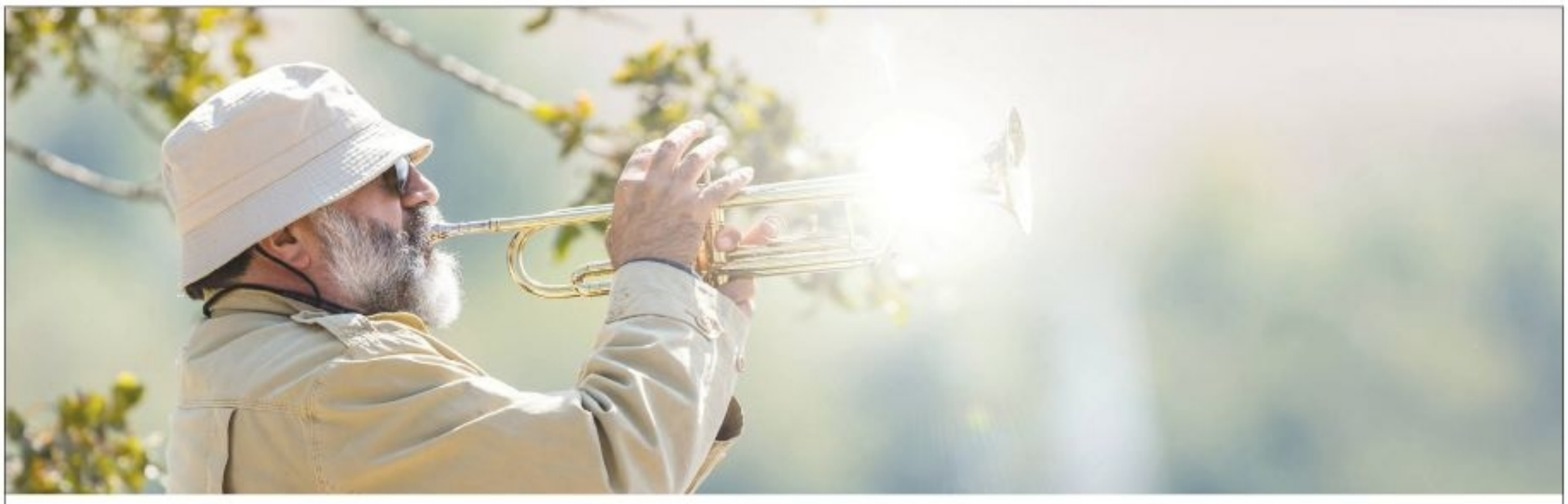
Other non-shocking list-toppers in the Farm Rich survey include investing in a 401K and drinking wine.

ALL IMAGES ISTOCK

Top 20 signs of "adulting"

Do you make the cut? Here are the top 20 signs of adulting:

1. Having a budget - **55%**
2. Buying a house - **54%**
3. Filing your own taxes - **52%**
4. Understanding and monitoring your credit score - **48%**
5. Investing in your 401(k) - **46%**
6. Doing your own laundry - **43%**
7. Scheduling regular doctors' appointments - **38%**
8. Making a list to take when going to the grocery store - **35%**
9. Cooking dinner most of Monday through Friday - **33%**
10. Watching the nightly news - **31%**
11. Changing the bedsheets regularly – **31%**
12. Reading the newspaper- **29%**
13. Hosting dinner parties or gatherings with friends - **29%**
14. Buying a sensible pair of shoes - **27%**
15. Making the bed every morning - **26%**
16. Drinking wine - **26%**
17. Using coupons - **25%**
18. Getting excited about a Saturday night staying in - **25%**
19. Starting the morning with coffee, lots - **23%**
20. Taking something out of the freezer to "defrost" - **22%**



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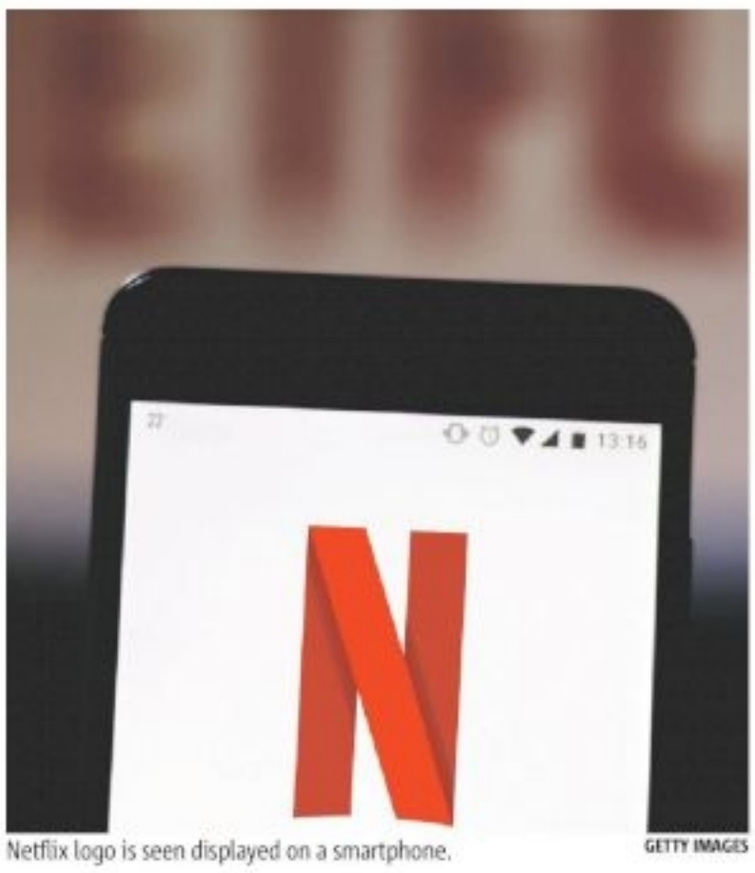

Netflix logo is seen displayed on a smartphone. GETTY IMAGES

Study reveals minor crimes you're most likely to commit

A recent study sheds light on just how many Americans break the law, and don't even realize it.

Lawsuit.org found that 81 percent of 1,071 people in a focus group committed a minor offense within the past year, and the vast majority of those people — 96 percent — considered themselves "law-abiding" citizens.

The study shows that the most common infraction was jaywalking. According to Findlaw.com, jaywalking is considered a misdemeanor carrying with it the possibility of a citation from police, which can result in a fine.

Secondly, the most popular offense was sharing your Netflix password, which 27 percent of study participants had done. Sharing your password with someone who is not paying for the account is technically illegal. This study showed that 45 percent of people were unaware that it was illegal to share their Netflix password.

The law with Netflix is a little bit more complicated, as sharing a Netflix password with someone outside of the family is technically a violation of the U.S. Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, CBS reported. Although companies aren't cracking down on this yet, it's something to note for the future.

Coming in at third place is pirating music or video content. The study shows that 24 percent of folks have done it. If you pirate video or music content, it is possible to be fined up to $250,000 or one could face five years of jail time, according to RIAA.com. Nine percent of people in the Lawsuit.org study had no clue that pirating music or video content was actually illegal.

And ever use a pseudonym? Forty-two percent of people were unaware that using a fake name online is technically illegal. It is also illegal to connect to unsecured Wi-Fi; about 40 percent of survey participants were also unaware of this.

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Ringo Starr performs at the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts on Aug. 16, 2019. REUTERS

'You can still sense the love': Boomers revel at Woodstock, 50 years on

Flower crowns, tie-dye and ... metal detectors.

Baby boomers dressed in tie-dye, rolling wheelchairs and chasing a memory of peace and love flocked to Bethel, New York, for the weekend to mark the 50th anniversary of Woodstock, the music festival that defined 1960s counterculture.

Thousands of flower-crowned visitors made the journey to the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, which now owns the original festival site, to hear some of the same musicians including Arlo Guthrie; attend a planned Saturday concert by Santana; and feel the spirit of community that the 1969 festival produced.

"Even though I'm seeing the site 50 years later, I feel like I'm there at the first concert," said Peter Hadley, 63, who arrived on Thursday. "Everybody greets us, talks to us. It's the love that started back in '69 and it's present here, now."

Woodstock, which was held at Max Yasgur's dairy farm in upstate New York from Aug. 15-18 and featured about 30 acts, became a logistical nightmare when more than 400,000 people showed up, causing traffic gridlock for miles.

This weekend, in stark contrast to 1969, attendees found metal detectors, indoor plumbing and abundant food vendors at the Bethel Woods Center, which is hosting several concerts to mark the anniversary.

But those making the return trip said they had been unfazed by the chaos and unsanitary conditions in 1969, and instead remembered the kindness of locals, law enforcement and other concertgoers who offered food and medical aid.

"Everything that could go wrong went wrong. But everything went right," said Duke Devlin, 77, who hitchhiked to Woodstock from Texas and has lived near the festival venue ever since. "We were bombarded with bliss."

Arlene Seymour, 69, arrived for the weekend wearing the same tie-dye shirt she bought on her way to the 1969 concert. She fondly recalled sharing food with people she had just met and sleeping in the trunk of a stranger's car to avoid the rain.

"It just wouldn't happen like that today," she said. "Because of the environment in the world, people would be worried to have it so loose."

The anniversary attracted not just baby boomers. Younger people, dressed in throwback bell-bottoms and fringes, came to experience the atmosphere they missed in 1969.

Down the road from Bethel, a more informal reunion with music was taking place to mark the weekend in a style reminiscent of 50 years ago.

"You can still sense the love," said Michelle Lecuyer, a 53-year-old sales director from New Hampshire, who described standing on the field where rock legends like Jimi Hendrix, Joe Cocker and Janis Joplin performed as experiencing "a slice of heaven."

Previous Woodstock anniversaries have not fostered such harmony. People threw mud at performers at a rain-drenched Woodstock '94 in Saugerties, New York. A fire broke out at the 30th reunion in Rome, New York, and the event devolved into violence.

Last month, original Woodstock producer Michael Lang's plans for a 50th anniversary festival fell through when the organizers failed to secure a venue and headliners including Jay-Z and Miley Cyrus dropped out. REUTERS

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ACCEPTING TRANSFERS

US whiskey exporters struggle after year of EU tariffs

Herman Mihalich, owner of Mountain Laurel Spirits LLC, makers of Dad's Hat Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey, samples some of the company's bottle-ready whiskey in their distillery in Bristol, Pa. REUTERS

When Europe's tariffs on U.S. whiskey hit in June 2018, Bristol, Pennsylvania-based craft distillery Mountain Laurel Spirits LLC lost 10 percent of its sales overnight as its European distributor simply stopped buying its award-winning Dad's Hat Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey.

Foreign governments subject to U.S. President Donald Trump's trade tariffs have targeted American distilleries and their bourbon and rye whiskeys for retaliation. The industry fears new tariffs under consideration by the U.S. government could result in even higher tariffs on their products in Europe.

"We went from a marginally profitable business to breaking even," Mountain Laurel's owner and chemical engineer-turned-distiller, Herman Mihalich, said.

U.S. whiskey exporters are struggling to recoup lost sales after shipments to Europe plummeted 21 percent between June 2018 and 2019, according to data from the Distilled Spirits Council, a U.S. industry group.

In the 12 months before the tariffs hit, the United States exported $757 million of rye and bourbon. From July 2018 to June 2019 exports were $597 million. Exports are a sizable chunk of sales the U.S. whiskey industry, which generated $3.6 billion in revenue in 2018.

The Distilled Spirits Council said that 63 percent of U.S. whiskey exports have faced retaliatory tariffs from the European Union, China, Turkey, Canada and Mexico. The E.U. currently levies 25 percent tariffs on U.S. whiskey.

The U.S. Trade Representative's office is preparing to slap tariffs of up to 100 percent on $1.8 billion worth of European spirits and wine in response to illegal European aid to planemaker Airbus, the most recent development in a 15-year-long trade dispute between Europe and the United States.

"American whiskeys have become collateral damage," said Chris Swonger, chief executive of the Distilled Spirits Council at an Aug. 6 hearing with the U.S. Trade Representative. He urged Washington not to introduce the new tariffs because the industry fears Europe will introduce even more tariffs in retaliation.

The group said that at least 11,200 to 78,600 jobs could be lost in the beverage, alcohol and hospitality sectors, which currently employ 2.4 million Americans, if the E.U.-U.S.-conflict worsened.

> **"American whiskeys have become collateral damage."**
>
> Chris Swonger, chief executive, Distilled Spirits Council

WHISKEY BOOM ENDING

The tariff war is capping a boom for U.S. whiskey despite a surge in global demand for traditionally-made spirits and cocktails. The Kentucky Distillers Association said that the production of Kentucky bourbon, a popular variety of U.S. whiskey, in 2018 reached its highest level — 1.7 million barrels — since 1972.

In Pennsylvania, Mountain Laurel Spirits has tried to offset sales declines by breaking into new markets in the United States, a far from easy task as each of the 50 U.S. states requires an in-state licensed wholesaler. REUTERS

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Anti-extradition bill protesters march to demand democracy and political reforms, in Hong Kong, China, Aug. 18, 2019. REUTERS

Hong Kong protesters throng streets peacefully in pouring rain

Sunday's peaceful protest marks 11 weeks of citywide demonstrations.

Hundreds of thousands of anti-government protesters rallied peacefully in Hong Kong on Sunday, filling major thoroughfares under torrential downpours in the 11th week of what have been often violent demonstrations in the Asian financial hub.

Sunday's turnout showed that the movement still has broad-based support despite the ugly scenes witnessed in recent days when protesters occupied the Chinese-ruled city's airport, a move for which some activists apologized.

It was the calmest weekend protest since the latest demonstrations against perceived creeping Beijing influence in the former British colony began.

"They've been telling everyone we're rioters. The march today is to show everyone we are not," said a 23-year-old named Chris, who works in marketing and was dressed all in black, including a scarf covering his face and baseball cap.

"It does not mean we won't keep fighting. We will do whatever is necessary to win, but today we take a break, then we reassess."

One protester shouted at others who were jeering at police, "Today is a peaceful march! Don't fall into the trap! The world is watching us," prompting the group to move on.

It was impossible to put an exact figure on the number of protesters. The organizers put the number at 1.7 million, adding they had applied for permission to march to the Hong Kong Liaison Office, Beijing's main representative body in the city, on the last day of the month.

Police estimated there were 128,000 in Victoria Park at the height of the protest.

Late in the evening, some demonstrators were urging others to go home and rest.

Anger over a now-suspended bill that would allow criminal suspects in Hong Kong to be extradited to mainland China erupted in June, but the unrest has been fueled by broader worries about the erosion of freedoms guaranteed under the "one country, two systems" formula put in place after Hong Kong's return to Chinese rule in 1997, including an independent judiciary and right to protest.

SENSITIVE TIME FOR BEIJING

The protests present one of the biggest challenges for Chinese President Xi Jinping since he came to power in 2012, with the ruling Communist Party preparing to mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic on Oct. 1.

Protesters held aloft placards with slogans including "Free Hong Kong!" and "Democracy now!" and umbrellas to shield them from the sometimes-heavy rain.

Some aimed green lasers at police and government buildings. Many protesters chanted for the city's Beijing-backed leader, Carrie Lam, to step down. REUTERS

U.S. President Donald Trump. GETTY IMAGES

THE FOREMAN FORECAST: BRACING FOR IMPACT?

ANALYSIS

TOM FOREMAN

Ever since he took office, President Donald Trump has been snatching at the wheel of the world economy, insisting that if anyone knows how to drive that car, it's him. Tough talk, tariffs, trashed trade deals: Trump has plowed through it all like a demolition derby king. His supporters have cheered, reveling in their faith that he can't lose. And the raging U.S. economy has been the one area in which a solid majority of voters approve of the results they're getting from Trump.

But now it looks like the wheels might be coming off. With growing indicators of a possible recession, global markets are going wild. Investors everywhere appear poised to cash in and run for cover. Not doing it yet, but still. Trade disputes between the U.S. and China, uncertainty over Brexit, and general unrest in so many places make it unlikely the turmoil will end soon.

So Trump is pushing back. Through his never-ending torrent of tweets, he is trying to reassure Americans that even if some things go economically awry in some faraway places, he won't let it happen here. Your 401(k) won't be decimated. Our markets won't crash. Your job won't slide into the abyss.

In all sincerity, anyone who cares about this country has to hope he is right. Because if another recession comes our way, the real-life impact could be awful. People losing homes, cars and insurance. College hopes crumbling. Retirement plans collapsing. Businesses closing.

But in political terms, Trump should fear this news more than anyone else. He has staked so much of his identity on this idea that he knows how to make the economy hum, an economic collapse would be devastating. Sure, he's trying even now to lay the groundwork for blaming someone else — the Federal Reserve is a favorite target — but I suspect that is a waste of time. Fairly or not, voters judge every president on the strength of the economy, and if this economy cracks up, Donald Trump will likely find his legacy buried in the wreckage along with the rest of us.

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Box office: 'Good Boys' leads crowded weekend with $21 million

Seth Rogen-produced movie had the biggest opening for an original comedy this year.

Cast members Keith L. Williams, Jacob Tremblay, Brady Noon and Chance Hurstfield at the premiere for the film "Good Boys". REUTERS

The Bean Bag Boys, the self-appointed nickname for the trio of best friends in Universal's "Good Boys," are conquering much more than sixth grade. They are also leading the domestic box office, exceeding expectations and collecting $21 million on opening weekend.

"Good Boys," which screened at 3,204 North American theaters, is a much-needed win for original comedies, a genre that's been struggling at the box office as of late. The Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg-produced movie is the first R-rated funny film to open in first place in three years (since 2016's "The Boss"), as well as the biggest opening for an original comedy this year.

The R-rated movie, carrying a $20 million price tag, also debuted overseas with $2.1 million for a global start of $23.1 million.

Universal also took second place with "Hobbs & Shaw." The "Fast & Furious" spinoff earned $14.1 million during its third outing, boosting domestic ticket sales to $133 million.

This weekend's four other new releases struggled to varying degrees.

Sony's "The Angry Birds Movie 2," which got a head start on the weekend by opening Tuesday, finished with $16.2 million over the six-day frame. The animated sequel landed in fourth place on box office charts, collecting $10 million during the traditional weekend. That haul is a steep drop from the first film, based on the once-popular phone app and video game, which scored $38 million in its inaugural weekend. The follow-up has the benefit of better reviews and a smaller production budget compared to the original.

Entertainment Studio's shark thriller "47 Meters Down: Uncaged" also lacked the same bite as its predecessor. The movie opened at No. 6, earning $9 million from 2,853 locations. The original movie started small with $11 million but had a long run in theaters, ultimately ending with $44 million in North America.

Meanwhile, Warner Bros. and New Line's "Blinded by the Light" and Annapurna's "Where'd You Go, Bernadette" both bombed, landing in 10th and 11th place.

Despite positive reviews, "Blinded by the Light" couldn't hit the right tune with audiences and debuted with a dismal $4.5 million from 2,307 screens. Directed by "Bend It Like Beckham" filmmaker Gurinder Chadha, the coming-of age story follows a British-Pakistani teenager whose life is changed when he discovers Bruce Springsteen music. The few moviegoers who did see the film this weekend seemed to enjoy it, awarding it with an "A-" CinemaScore.

"Blinded by the Light" is ending summer on a rocky note for Warner Bros., which missed with last weekend's mob thriller "The Kitchen" and May's "Godzilla: King of the Monsters."

"Where'd You Go, Bernadette," directed by Richard Linklater and based on Maria Stemple's novel, launched below expectations with a disastrous $3.45 million. Cate Blanchett stars as the titular Bernadette, who curiously disappears just before her family is set to go on a big trip. The cast also includes Billy Crudup and Kristen Wiig. REUTERS

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7	3							4
6		8	2	9	4		5	
			8		7			
5		1		7	6	2		8
		6				5		
3		4	5	2		9		6
			6		8			
	6		3	4	2	7		9
8							6	5

MEDIUM

3			6	2				8
	1	6		5	7		9	
				6	8	1		
		9	3	1	5	8		
		5	4	7				
	9		2	8		4	7	
7				9	3			2

READER WRITE-INS:

THANK YOU

I am baffled when people don't say "thank you." Not for a sympathy card, money for a wedding, returning a lost wallet, or even holding the door. I guess if you're looking for something in return, don't do it.

— **Anonymous,** *Metro US reader*

ISTOCK

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries A passionate attitude can help you reach your goals, but discipline and practicality will ensure that you get there without suffering setbacks on the way.

Taurus Think before you act. You may crave change, but that doesn't mean the time is right to make a move. Take your time, plan your actions and leave no room for error.

Gemini Spend more time taking care of your physical, emotional and financial needs. Refuse to get caught up in someone else's drama or extravagance. Protect your reputation.

Cancer You know what's required, so refuse to let the little things get in your way. Take care of business as well as your physical and emotional health.

Leo Learn as you go. An open mind and a desire to do things on your own will tip the scale in your favor. Don't feel obligated to follow someone else.

Virgo Step up and take charge. If you want to change, do something about it. Focus on the end results and don't stop until you reach your goal.

Libra Say what's on your mind and clear the air. Once you know where you stand and how others feel, you will know how to best move forward.

Scorpio Set a course and refuse to let anyone sidetrack you. An energetic and disciplined approach will help you bring about positive change and greater freedom to do as you please.

Sagittarius Home and self-improvements will give you a new lease on life. Don't feel that you must abide by someone else's grand plan when you have your own path to follow.

Capricorn Speed things up and finish what you start before someone tries to interfere. The less interaction you have with others, the easier it will be to get things done your way.

Aquarius Opportunity knocks. Look over your options and consider what will bring you the most satisfaction and the least stress. Do what suits you best and have no regrets. Romance is highlighted.

Pisces Don't reveal information that might be used against you or put you in an awkward position. Moderation should be practiced, regardless of what others choose to do. Personal improvement is encouraged.

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High in the sky

The Atlantic City Airshow takes place Aug. 21.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Every year, thousands of people head to the coastal town of Atlantic City the last week in August — but not for the beach or casinos.

The Atlantic City Airshow is a treasured tradition in South Jersey. Every year, masses line the beach and the tops of casinos to catch glimpses of incredible aircrafts zooming by, performing stunts and creating awe-inspiring sights. This year will be no different.

One of the aviation groups that perform, the Geico Skytypers (Geico is also the sponsor of the event) has been wowing spectators for years at the Airshow. The vintage airshow squadron travels around the country, but according to squadron commander and team flight lead Larry Arken, AC's show is one of their favorite performances to take part in. Arken sat down with Metro to give us the scoop on what to expect from the Geico Skytypers and the AC Airshow this year.

When did you first get started in aviation and with the Geico Skytypers?
My dad actually started the business when I was a teenager, and that's when I started flying the WarBirds with him. It originally started as a sky typing demonstration and then it morphed into airshows and aerial demonstrations. We still do the sky typing but performing is our passion.

What does the Geico Skytyper portion of the Airshow feature?
It's an 18-minute low-level precision flying demonstration with aerobatics. We use six aircrafts, and our show is very similar to the Thunderbirds and the Blue Angels in many ways, except it doesn't have the intense aerobatics that they have — and that's because the airplanes were built around the 1940s and 1950s. We do different formations — opposing passes, head-to-head passes with the two solos opposing the diamond formation, our bombast maneuver and our implosion maneuver which requires various breakouts. It's very interesting to watch and it's the precision that people love to watch. The show is slower and closer to you so everything that we do is in front of the crowd, so a lot of people really enjoy it.

The Geico Skytypers. NICK HALSETH/PULSEVISUALS.COM

What kind of training do you do to prepare?
The majority of the Airshow team pilots are former military aviators — they're veterans. There are a few civilians on the team, but the average hours the pilots spend in the air are upwards of 8,000 to 10, 000 hours. All of the pilots on the team either professionally fly presently, or have in the past. The majority of us are also pilots from major airlines and we do this on the side. We need people that have talent.

You fly all around the country performing. Is there anything special about the AC Airshow?
It's actually one of our favorites. There are just so many people that come out to watch the show and fill up the casinos. They always tell us how much they love it and how they come down every year [for it]. I mean, you'll have half a million people on that beach. I bring the team over the top of those buildings and just before I make the first turn, I look at the beach and I go, "Oh my gosh, that beach is packed." It's a great show and a great venue. Plus, we are based out of New York, so it's close to home for us.

Is there anything else you would want people to know about the Sky Typers or the Airshow?
We've been coming here for years and we constantly change up the routine to make it fun and interesting. Thank goodness for Geico for getting us here and letting us show off the vintage aircrafts. My father and these aircrafts were from the greatest generation and it is really a part of our heritage — these are the people that died for our freedom. So it's an honor to fly these airplanes in front of many spectators and show them what an airplane like this can do in the sky. That being said, it's just going to be a fabulous Airshow.

To learn more about the AC Airshow, visit atlanticcitynj.com.

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B076 - Cordrey, Sean; B220 - Schaffe, Dennis; B351 - Keiter, Melissa; B357 - Valentin, Maria; C004 - Benson, Cassara; C023 - Crompton Jr, John; C057 - Truelove, Zonda

PUBLIC STORAGE # 23103, 1251 Byberry Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116, (215) 309-8020 • Time: 11:00 AM

D425 - Clough, Roland; D432 - Mirzayeva, Nargiza; D450 - Davalos, Travis; E506 - Frances, William; E522 - Herrar, Beulah; E528 - Smith, Vanessa; G760 - Golembiewski, Ramona; G772 - Wallace, Amanda; H834 -Isrolov, Shokhrukh; H838 - Snyder, Marjorie; H854 - Alexander, Sharee; L1058 - Jefferson, Charles; L1070 - McGrath, Kelly; L1080 - Craven, Linnea; M1124 - Berry, Kim; N1400 - Rawls, Donesiah; N1418 - Zampini, Vince

PUBLIC STORAGE # 24232, 2700 Grant Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19114, (215) 490-9431 • Time: 12:00 PM

B0048 - Goodwin, Krystal; B0053 - Stinger, Dawn; B0069 - Harper, Tamika; B0071 - Batzig, John; C0122 - Johnson-Fields, Latifah; C0149 - HARGROVE-MOORE, DANA; D0183 - Alexander, Julie; E0297 - Knight, Felicia; E0321 - Badger, Samuel; E0322 - Mckinley, James; G0417 - Gibson, Joanne; G0432 - Gibson, Joanne; I0615 - Molletta, Tameeka; J0719 - Hotchkiss, Stephanie; J0753 - Gooden, Maxayn; J0758 - Alexander, Shemise; J0776 - White, Steven; K0887 - Boyle, Patrick; K0907 - Wood, Joseph; L1011 - Meenan, Tricia; N1138 - Hocker, Daniel; N1172 - King III, John; N1175 - Dambrosio, John

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5 Fun things to do in Philly this week

Drink for a cause, hang out in a history museum after hours, and more.

MADELINE PRESLAND
letters@metro.us

Do you need to fill an empty calendar this week? Whether you're a history buff, foodie or getting ready to make some career moves, there's a unique event for you. Here are five fun things to do in Philly this week.

Fashion District Job Fair
If you're looking for a new job in retail or food service, get ready to print a few copies of your résumé. Formerly known as the Gallery Mall, the new Fashion District shopping center is scheduled to open in September. Retailers and restaurants will be at the job fair to hire for a range of positions. Attendees are required to register, so make sure you sign up. *Aug. 20, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., PA Career Link at Suburban Station, 1617 John F Kennedy Blvd., free, fashiondistrictphiladelphia.com*

Revolutionary Staycation
Head to the Museum of the American Revolution for this installment of their History After Hours series. Be in the room for "Hamiltunes" karaoke with local actress and singer Donnie Hammond while sipping on some Staycation Sangria. The event will conclude with performances in Washington's War Tent theater.
Aug. 20, 5-8 p.m., Museum of the American Revolution, 101 S. 3rd St., $10, amrevmuseum.org

Weavers Way Benefit Dinner
Help Weavers Way raise money for their two urban farms while enjoying a delicious three-course dinner made with local ingredients. The food co-op will host a BYOB dinner at their space in the Awbury Arboretum. In addition to dinner, tickets include a tour of the farm and mocktails. Weavers Way Executive Chef Bonnie Shuman's menu will feature a Latin American charred corn salad and a hominy stew with a choice of chicken or seitan. *Aug. 21, 6-8:30 p.m., Mort Brooks Farm, 6336 Ardleigh St., $40-$80, weaversway.org*

Barra Rossa Wine Dinner
Plan a perfect mid-week date night filled with pasta, wine and gelato. Center City restaurant Barra Rossa Night of Italy's five-course prix-fixe dinner includes carefully chosen Italian wine pairings. Courses will include a linguini porcini paired with a bold red ciliegiolo, and classic vanilla gelato paired with a sweet muscat. Reservations are required. *Aug. 22, 6 p.m., Barra Rossa, 929 Walnut St., $65, barrarossa.com*

Drink for a Cause Happy Hour
If you're looking for an excuse to stay for an extra round during happy hour on Thursday, head to the Bourse for a special fundraising event with Love City Brewing. The local brewery will sell a range of their beers to support the Philadelphia chapter of the Pink Boots Society, which provides scholarship and resources for women beer professionals to advance their careers. Make sure you try the light and fruity Smash It Up Saison, a collaborative brew from the Pink Boots Society and Love City.
Aug. 22, 6-9 p.m., The Bourse Food Hall, 111 S. Independence Mall E., pay as you go, theboursephilly.com

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'The Amazing Johnathan Documentary' proves nothing is as it seems

We spoke with the film's director, Ben Berman, on the pitfalls of covering the famous magician.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

It should be a rule of thumb that a documentary that covers a subject without anything going wrong along the way is typically not the most interesting experience for the viewer. Even though it's great for the rest of us, this kind of bargain can put the documentarian through hell and back. This is exactly what happened to filmmaker Ben Berman with his new film "The Amazing Johnathan Documentary," now on Hulu.

Berman was first aware of The Amazing Johnathan after watching one of his legendary and unhinged performances on Comedy Central when he was around 13 years old. If you are of a certain age, you have probably seen them, too. The magician curses and makes it seem as though all of his tricks go dangerously wrong onstage when, in fact, that is the act itself. As Berman grew older, he forgot about the performer until news that the performer had been diagnosed with the fatal heart disease, cardiomyopathy, surfaced and that the hugely successful Vegas magician would be gifting some of his tricks to younger magicians after his inevitable passing.

"I thought that was a pretty beautiful thing. He wanted his legacy to live on after he was gone and live on through other magicians. And I thought that was really cool," Berman told me over the phone. From there came his idea to document Johnathan in his current moment, and he got the opportunity to follow the magician as he began to make his comeback to the stage.

But of course, Johnathan would prove to be a more difficult subject to cover than Berman would ever imagine. The magician has been open in his daily use of crystal meth and while Berman and his crew had their cameras going, Johnathan alerted them that there were, perhaps, multiple documentary crews that would be making similar films along the way.

This throws a wrench in Berman's plan, as his access to his intended subject begins to decrease as these "crews" vie for camera time. But, are we sure they are real or is this actually the work of one of the world's greatest tricksters? That is the question that Berman was then forced to pursue the answer to as the film takes its unintended turn.

One question is raised throughout the film over and over again: If Johnathan was only given one month left to live, how has he stayed alive for the four years since his diagnosis? Could it be that this is the biggest trick he has ever pulled? Were these other documentary crews only diversions so that Berman would not get close enough to find out? Could it be that Johnathan's real disease could be his drug addiction?

"That's a good question," says Berman. "A lot of people ask me, 'Do you still believe that he's faking his death?' And I absolutely say, no. I'm not still questioning if he's faking it or not. I think the more accurate question is, why is he dying? What is this heart cardiomyopathy actually about? Or what caused it? Is it possibly ... you know, smoking meth multiple times a day for 25 years is certainly not good for your heart. Could that have caused what he claims to be cardiomyopathy, or what was diagnosed as cardiomyopathy? I think there's a good chance of that. Which is a kind of a chicken-or-the-egg situation. Was he predisposed to heart disease regardless of drugs, or without drugs? That could be the case. Was he predisposed and would've got cardiomyopathy anyway? But in addition to that, smokes meth, which certainly can't help. I think that's a great possibility as well. Or did the meth cause the heart disease? I don't have those answers, but I would imagine that certainly that they're linked."

Without spoiling the head-scratcher of an ending, Berman ends up getting some of the answers he was looking for. And while he may have been driven to the brink of insanity by his subject, the ride that he went on only helped to cement the film as a thrilling viewing experience.

"It was certainly a wild ride that was at times either uncomfortable, upsetting, worrisome or just a huge, huge bummer," explains an exasperated Berman. "But I think that's part of the value of the movie. That it actually kind of either shows, explores or unpacks not only the story of Johnathan, not only the Johnathan element of this documentary. But it unpacks the making of a story like that. And all the questions and all the ups and downs that come along with being able to try to — at least attempt — to tell that story."

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Innovative project in the Netherlands

Dutch studio Ector Hoogstad Architecten is currently working on the development of the world's largest bicycle parking lot. The centerpiece of an urban remodeling is set to reconnect the enlarged railway station with the historic center of Utrecht, the Netherlands. The project seeks to promote the fourth-largest city in the country as sustainable. **METRO WORLD NEWS**

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747 WEST ALLEGHENY AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19133
ONLINE AUCTION HELD AT STORAGEAUCTIONS.COM
AUCTION DATE: 9/04/2019 TIME: 9:00 AM

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U-HAUL® MOVING & STORAGE AT ROOSEVELT BLVD
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ONLINE AUCTION HELD AT STORAGEAUCTIONS.COM
AUCTION DATE: 9/04/2019 TIME: 10:30 AM

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ONLINE AUCTION HELD AT STORAGEAUCTIONS.COM
AUCTION DATE: 9/04/2019 TIME: 9:30 AM

RICHARD ALLEN 1519, SEHLINA BEHLIN 1613, KHARY HERBERT 1016, BENJAMIN BATES 1026, KIANNA SINGLETON 1213, CHANLDER SYKES 1225, ELIJAH KEARSE 1610, PATIENCE DENNIS 1529

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[illegible]

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0337 Adriana Jenkins, Household Goods, Furniture, Boxes, Appliances
1302 Marquita Brooks, Household Goods, Boxes, Furniture, Toys, Sporting Goods, Appliances
2309 Olukayode Abbass, Furniture, Boxes • 3323 Susan Howard, Furniture, Boxes Appliances
3601 Tiffany Arrestead, Household Goods, Boxes, Furniture • 4403 Ira Dorsey, Household Goods, Appliances, Boxes
A4316 Margaret Thomson, Appliances, Household Goods, Suite Cases
A4427 Maksudur Rahmen, Art Supplies • A4427 Stanley Paul Jr., Clothes, Sneakers
A4608 Melissa Washington, Clothes Toys, Appliances

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0201 Sharreena Tatum, Household Goods, Furniture, Boxes, Suitcases, Appliances, Tools
0400 Ikema Custus, Household Goods, Furniture, Boxes
0507 Johnny Santiago, Furniture, Boxes • 2306 Georgia Fuss, Household Goods
2327 Beatrice Jaipur, Household Goods, Furniture, Boxes, Suitcases, Toys, Appliances
2708 Juan Gesnaker, Household Goods, Boxes

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1108 Jose Alicea Household Goods • 3109 Rosita Rivera Perez Household Goods
3202 Tiana Tolbert Household Goods

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2100 Lucy Diaz, Household Goods, Boxes Toys • 3336 Janet Follett, Household Goods, Boxes, Bags • 3222 Naima Goins, Household Goods, Boxes, Clothes
1213 Tosheena Hagin, Household Goods, Boxes, Toys • 2130 Delvy Hernandez, Household Goods, Boxes, Bags • 3414 Karriena Johnson, Household Goods, Boxes
2108 Jose Lopez, Household Goods, Boxes, Toys • 3602 Jose Lopez, Household Goods, Boxes, Bags • 2316 Tabatha Lugtok, Household Goods, Boxes, Clothes
2107 Michael Mitchell, Household Goods, Boxes, Clothes • 2310 Alexandra Ramos, Household Goods, Boxes • 3212 Elizabeth Rios, Household Goods, Boxes
2419 Jimmy Rodriguez, Household Goods, Boxes • 3129 Evelyn Torres, Household Goods, Boxes, Toys

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1209 Latonya Mcleod, Household Goods • 1228 Obadelun Alli, Household Goods • 1240 Ruth Dixon, Household Goods
2126 Denise Hawkins, Household Goods • 2329 Aaron Owens, Household Goods • 2333 Sharn Mulford, Household Goods
2348 Andreana Thornton, Household Goods • 2411 Stanford Howard JR, Household Goods • 2413 Kenyatta Golphin-Griffin, Household Goods
2501 Bonnie Thornton, Household Goods • 2764 Sydia Harris, Household Goods • 3101 Jovon Wilson, Household Goods
3108 Eddie Baldwin JR, Household Goods • 3124 Tanya Ross, Household Goods • 3137 Hector Morgan, Household Goods
3223 Courtney Desmond-Smith, Household Goods • 3235 Darrell Slaughter, Household Goods • 3236 Arnold Williams, Household Goods
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2715 Dellre Patterson, Household Goods, Boxes • 4533 Wilfredo Pellot-Santiago, Household Goods, Boxes
2511 Andrea Robinson, Household Goods, Boxes • 4531 Luz Sanabria, Household Goods, Boxes
2408 Delon Smith, Household Goods, Boxes • 2437 LashondaThomas, Household Goods, Boxes
3322 Angel Vazquez, Household Goods, Boxes

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OF PUBLIC AUCTION OF UNITS IN LIEN

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Property contained in the following units located at 3503 B Street will be sold via online auction at STORAGETREASURES.COM on August 20, 2019 at 11:00 AM., to the highest bidder to satisfy the owners lien for rent under 73 p.s. 1901 et. seq. Auction is with reserve. 21st Century Storage reserves the right to set the minimum bids and refuse bids. Cash or credit card ONLY. Contents must be paid for 8/20 and removed within 48 hours.

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Steven Hernandez E431 — Yaroliz Rodriguez T815
Michael Gesualdo S706 — Maria Sanchez W210
Barbara Garcia Rodriguez M127 — Fontry Taylor Eyonne T849
Yoleska Rosario T852 — Johan Villalona T202
Edwin Cruz D523 — Chris Tornecila M136
Edison Figueroa V113 — Melissa Rivera H709
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Kassandra Marie Rivera J900 — Damaris Zavala D314

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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

The safest bet going today is that Pennsylvania sports betting is about explode in T-minus 17 days, which is the start of the 2019 NFL season.

The state is already seeing strong month-to-month increases in handle (total amount of money wagered) as it jumped from $46.3 million in June to $59.3 million in July. This is particularly impressive considering that July is traditionally the slowest month on the sports betting calendar.

Nearly two-thirds of the bets taken in Pennsylvania during the month of July were online bets.

"It will be interesting to see how it plays out [when football season begins]," said Evan Davis, vice president and general counsel at SugarHouse, at the Philadelphia Business Journal's Business of Sports Conference last month. "We've seen how New Jersey has done, and the nature of the bets you can make online adds to it as well. In-play betting, anything from who's going to win the next point in a tennis match, to who is going to win the seventh inning of a baseball game … that's a lot more conducive to betting online than it is to betting at a physical sportsbook."

SUGARHOUSE CASINO

Based on New Jersey's month-to-month increases from the summertime months to the start of pro and college football, we should see Pennsylvania's handle hop to around $68 million in August and then soar to around $125 million in September.

In August of last year, New Jersey's handle was $95.6 million and it nearly doubled in September to $183.9 million.

Here is the breakdown by sportsbook for the month of July (includes retail and online).

SugarHouse $26.5 million

Rivers Pittsburgh $14.3 million

Parx Casino $7.2 million

FanDuel at Valley Forge $5 million

South Philadelphia Turf Club $1.9 million

Penn National Race Course $1.8 million

Harrah's $1.7 million

Oaks Race $789,502

Presque Isle Downs $162,781

TWEET OF THE DAY

Matt Burke
@Burke_Metro

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Best Bets

College FB over/unders: West Virginia

West Virginia Mountaineers Under 5 wins (-130)

West Virginia underwhelmed by going 8-4 last season.

The bulk of their offensive attack from a year ago, including quarterback Will Grier, is gone. New head coach Neal Brown (Dana Holgorsen bolted for the Houston Cougars job) appears to have his hands full here.

The Mountaineers have been re-tooling a struggling offensive line throughout the offseason that lost its anchor in left tackle Yodny Cajuste.

Running back Kennedy McKoy and Martell Pettaway could have a hard time finding openings. West Virginia must hope that Oklahoma transfer Austin Kendall and Alabama transfer T.J. Simmons develop immediate chemistry at quarterback and wide-out, respectively, to compete with the elite offenses of the Big 12.

GETTY IMAGES

The Mountaineers' defense was just 74th in the country last year and has to adjust to a new system while breaking in several new players. That spells trouble against schools like Texas and Oklahoma, part of a back-breaking October that also features a game with Iowa State.

ROBERT CRISCOLA

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Zach Eflin has to do more with a possible second chance of getting back into the Phillies' rotation. GETTY IMAGES

Phillies need Eflin now more than ever

With Arrieta done for the season, the Phillies rotation needs the righty to regain his early-season form.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

The hits kept coming for the Philadelphia Phillies over the weekend.

And not in a good way — even though they were playing some of their best baseball of the summer.

Just days after reliever David Robertson underwent Tommy John surgery, the Phillies announced that Jake Arrieta will be shut down for the rest of the season. He will have elbow surgery to remove a bone spur later this month.

Arrieta had pitched with the bone spur for over a month after alerting reporters of the injury in early July.

His numbers this season were nowhere near the Cy Young levels the Phillies had hoped for after signing him last year. Arrieta went 8-8 this season with a 4.64 ERA — his highest mark since 2013.

It was a gutsy effort, regardless.

The Phillies needed Arrieta to eat innings for a starting rotation that was in shambles behind Aaron Nola.

Zach Eflin and Nick Pivetta were demoted to the bullpen while Vince Velasquez continued to struggle with inconsistencies.

Of the six Phillies pitchers to make 10 starts this year, Nola was the only arm to have an ERA lower than 3.60.

It forced GM Matt Klentak to scramble in late July as he added veterans Drew Smyly and Jason Vargas to the mix, but Arrieta's absence creates another void in the rotation.

Manager Gabe Kapler decided to give Eflin another chance and reinstate his starting status on Saturday night against the San Diego Padres.

While he looked good in his first three innings of work, helping the Phillies get out to a 3-0 lead, he imploded in the fourth.

Eflin allowed three two-out runs that included two-strike hits by the opposing pitcher, Dinelson Lamet, and center fielder Manuel Margot.

Pivetta proceeded to allow two runs in 1.1 innings of work as the Phillies' four-game win streak ended in a 5-3 loss.

Saturday, Aug. 24, against the Miami Marlins will be the next time Arrieta's spot in the rotation is up to start. As it stands, the Phillies have yet to list a probable starter.

If Eflin gets another chance, he'll have to do much, much more to instill any sort of confidence within the Phillies organization.

There is still promise that he'll get there, though.

Over the first two months of the season, Eflin was the Phillies' best starter while Nola struggled with some early issues.

In his first 14 starts of the season, the 25-year-old sported a 2.83 ERA despite a 6-7 record.

As the season wound into summer, though, Eflin was having issues going deep into games while he complained that his body felt "heavy."

For a younger pitcher who had never pitched more than 128 innings in a single season, that's common when encountering a newer, heavier workload.

He got past the fifth inning just twice in his next six starts as he went 1-4 with a sky-high 10.45 ERA — which led to his demotion to the bullpen in late July.

With time running out and the standings plenty tight, the Phillies don't have many other options outside of Eflin.

If they want to snag one of those National League Wild Card spots in October, they'll need the Eflin of April and May.

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What Eagles are getting in McCown

The Eagles were forced to sign the veteran after injuries to Sudfeld, Kessler.

JOE PANTORNO
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Josh McCown. GETTY IMAGES

The Philadelphia Eagles delayed any sort of congratulatory party for Josh McCown as they signed the journeyman quarterback to a one-year deal on Saturday.

McCown had announced his retirement this summer with plans to join ESPN as an analyst, though he admitted that he still wanted to play and was waiting for the right situation.

It looks as though the Eagles provided just that as the organization's quarterback depth chart has taken a hit over the first two weeks of the preseason.

The Eagles are down two of their backup quarterbacks. Nate Sudfeld broke his wrist in the preseason opener before Cody Kessler suffered a concussion on Thursday against the Jacksonville Jaguars.

Rookie Clayton Thorson was left as the lone reserve quarterback behind Carson Wentz, who has a well-known injury history of his own.

It was quite an inauspicious start to life after Nick Foles for the Eagles' depth chart.

McCown provides that much-needed stability behind Wentz, though.

The 40-year-old has hung around the league for 17 years now despite being a backup for a majority of that time with 10 different teams.

He's coming off the finest stretch of his career with the New York Jets, whom he spent the past two years with.

McCown recorded career bests in completions (267), completion percentage (67.3 percent), passing yards (2,926), and touchdowns (18) during the 2017 season as New York's starter.

His efforts helped a bad Jets team exceed low expectations, going 5-8 in 13 games.

He quickly shifted to mentor in 2018 after the Jets drafted Sam Darnold with the No. 3 pick of the draft, putting the USC product on the fast track to franchise quarterback status.

McCown will now have the opportunity to secure the spot as direct backup to Wentz even after Sudfeld returns from his injury.

The 25-year-old underwent surgery and will be out at least six weeks.

Sudfeld was enjoying a strong start to his preseason, completing 10-of-18 passes for 177 yards with one touchdown and a 107.9 QB rating.

While important during the preseason, McCown's signing and Sudfeld's impending return won't mean much as long as Wentz stays healthy.

A torn ACL and a back issue forced the franchise quarterback to end each of his past two seasons early, allowing for the rise of Nick Foles.

The Eagles still doubled down on Wentz, though, signing him to a four-year, $128 million extension back in June.

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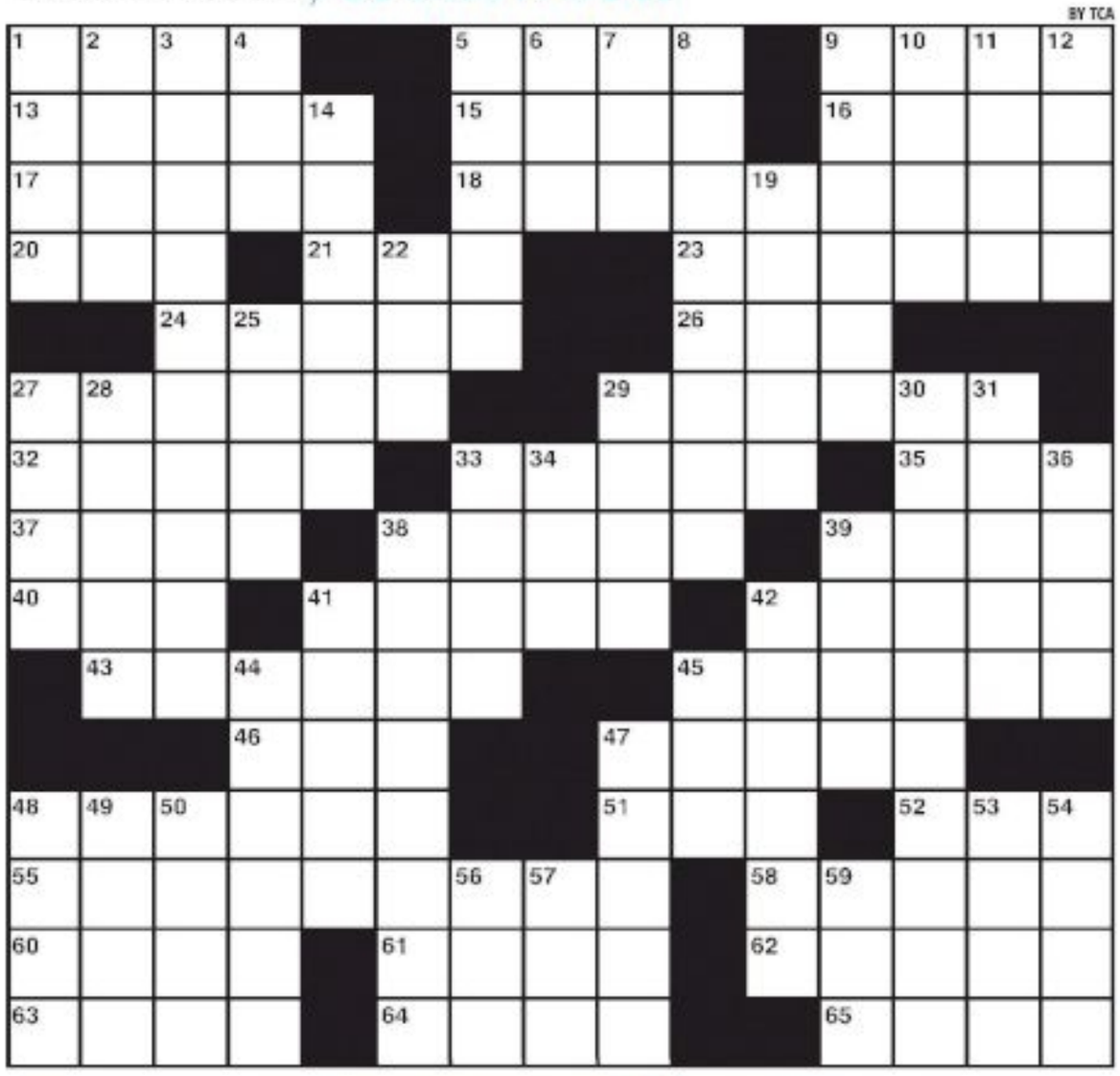

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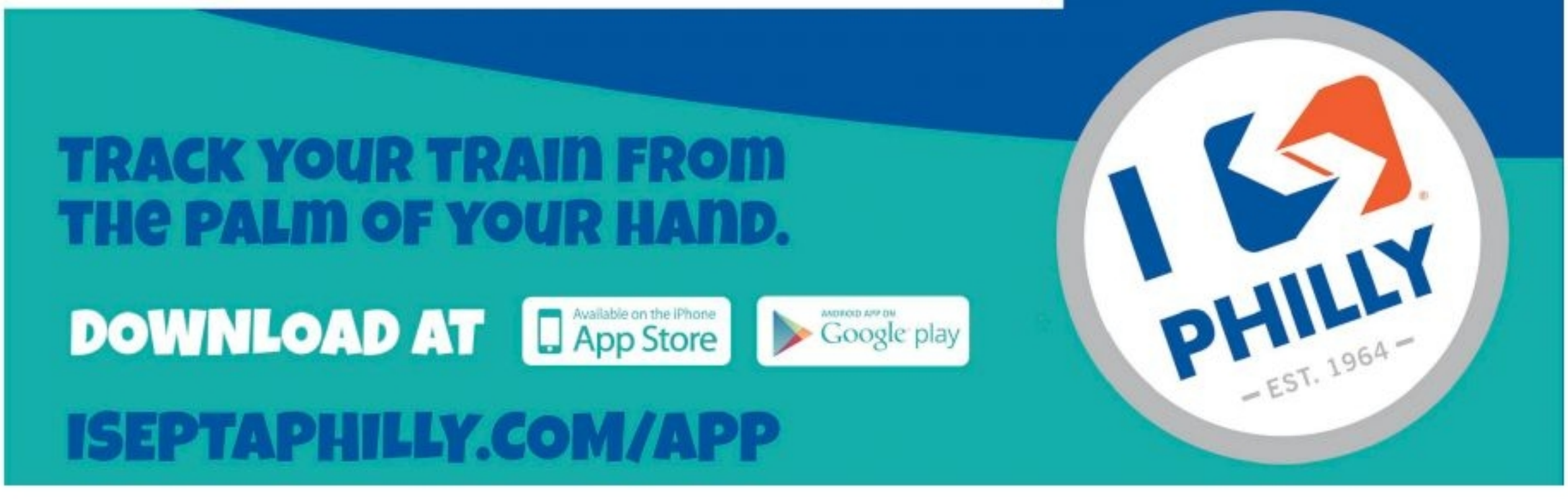
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